

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the Office Action of June 13, 2008. This request for reconsideration is intended to be fully responsive thereto.

AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 was amended to add all features and limitations of claim 2. Claim 2 was canceled. Claims 3 and 4 were amended to change the dependency because of the amendments of claim 1. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for mentioning that Claim 2 is allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103 (a)

Claims 1, 3, and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US5,826,697 to Mochizuki in view of US5609463 to Kobayashi. The Examiner claimed that Mochizuki in view of Kobayashi teaches all the limitations of Claims 1, 3, and 4.

The Applicant respectfully disagrees; however, in order to accelerate the process, the Applicant amended Claim 1 to include all features and limitations of Claim 2 which was in condition for allowance. Claim 2 was canceled because all limitations of claim 2 were added in Claim 1. Claims 3 and 4 are now dependent from Claim 1, and therefore, Claims 1, 3 and 4 should be allowable now.

Conclusion

Because of the above-identified and fully discussed differences, it is respectfully submitted Claims 1, 3, and 4 are now in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe further discussion regarding the above claim language would expedite prosecution they are invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

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